When Postive is a Negative • PACOM's Movement Masters

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

Soldiers

November 2003
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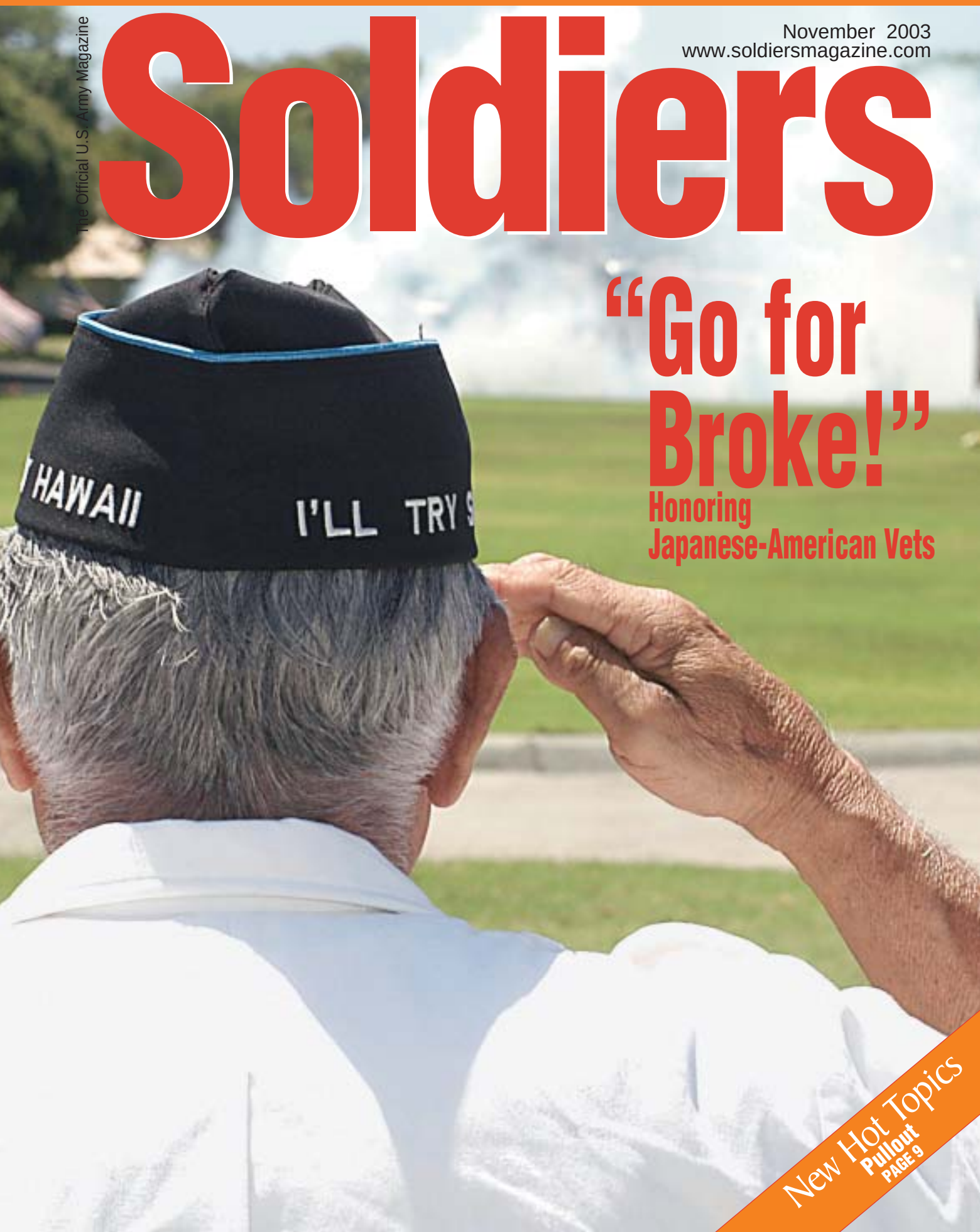

"Go for Broke!"

Honoring Japanese-American Vets

New Hot Topics Pullout PAGE 9

Cover Story — Page 8

Japanese-American veterans can look back on a proud history of service to the nation. — PH2 Johnnie R. Robbins, USN

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Soldiers | November 2003 | Vol

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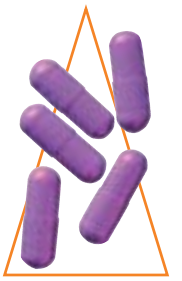
ume 58, No. 11

Page 18

Page 32



Page 42

Page 24

Features

Departments

Consumer Scams — at Page 9
Are you getting ripped off? Consumers lose millions of dollars each year to scams and frauds. Don't be a victim. Educate yourself on the tactics used by skilled con artists.

Letter from the Editor

THIS month's issue of Soldiers is dedicated to veterans — both past and present — who have answered our nation's call. Perhaps no group of veterans has shown more patriotism, valor and fidelity than the men of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion. These Japanese-Americans, many of whom had loved ones in U.S. government detention camps, fought courageously in some of the most horrific battles of World War II. From Hawaii, Heike Hasenauer brings you the story of these distinguished veterans in "Go for Broke!"

Also from Hawaii, Soldiers veteran correspondent Steve Harding takes a look at the mammoth mission of the 559th Transportation Group. In "PACOM's Movement Masters," Steve shows us how the group orchestrates transportation requirements for an area of responsibility that spans more than 105 million square miles.

Finally, photo editor SFC Alberto Betancourt brings you powerful images — taken by some of the Army's best photographers — of serving veterans in Afghanistan, Australia, Iraq and Kosovo in "On Point."

We hope you find this issue of Soldiers interesting and informative.

John E. Suttle

John E. Suttle

Soldiers

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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Armed Coasties

GREAT magazine! The August issue was especially good, though I would like to point out one error in Heike Hasenauer's article "Boosting Security in Hawaii."

On page 15 she talks about "all four armed services, and the Coast Guard," when she should have simply said "all five armed services." The Coast Guard has always been part of the nation's armed forces (and I've greatly enjoyed my 25 years service)!

Once again, your magazine is a great read!

CAPT Eddie Mack, USCG
via e-mail

CHPPM Toolkit

WE here at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) were happy to see the short article "Feel Your Best" on page 32 of the August issue. Please note that the Web address for our Self-care Toolkit is http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/Wellness/SelfCare/toolkit.aspx.

Ann Ham
via e-mail

MOUT Memorial

THE August article "Tomorrow's Battlefield" by SGT Mike Kieser was great, but I have one observation.

As a non-Army person, I had to read almost the entire article before I learned that the military operations in urban terrain site is named after Medal of Honor winners Randall Shughart and Gary Gordon. While MOUT is mentioned several times, including in every picture caption, Shughart and Gordon are mentioned only twice, near the end of the article and then only in passing.

The fact that the MOUT is named after these two brave soldiers who gave all should have been clearly established at the beginning of the article.

Al Dolney
via e-mail

Warbikes & Helmets

FROM a safety point of view, the two soldiers riding the enduro-style motorcycles on page 18 of the August "War Bikes" article are serious injuries waiting to happen.

I have been involved in several fact-finding groups in North Carolina concerning the ongoing debate about whether motorcyclists should be allowed (by law) to ride without helmets if they so choose. I'm firmly convinced that an approved helmet is an absolute necessity when it comes to preventing serious injury or death, even to the point that I support outlawing the thin turtle shell style helmets you routinely see on the highways, which barely meet the legal requirement, and provide very little protection.

I am also convinced that except for the ballistic protection afforded by the Kevlar the pictured military riders are wearing, they would almost be safer not wearing helmets at all. They look really "military and soldierly" in the photo, but the Army should get over the "image issue" and provide these soldiers with a Snell Foundation-approved full face helmet, because the support structure and fit of the Kevlar is so inferior to a commercially manufactured motorcycle helmet that the protection factor is minimal.

SFC Clay H. Kimrey
via e-mail

July Kudos

This is just a short note to let you know that I really liked your July issue — the format is great and the content is dead-on. Keep up the good work!

CSM Robert Rose
via e-mail

Identity Theft

I ENJOY the Hot Topics section and the edition in the May Soldiers had good information on identify theft.

The site you listed on page 11 for placement on a do-not-call list (www.the-dma.org/consumers/offtelephonelist. html) charges a $5 fee for registration by e-mail. They do not charge for mail-in registration, but they tell you it takes longer.

Your readers might like to know that in addition to this site there is a free National Registry site at www.donotcall.gov.

Joan Pouch
via e-mail

Bravo for Youth Challenge

OUR company provides training and technical assistance to the National Guard's Youth Challenge program, and we also maintain the program's Web site. We feel that Beth Reece's May article "Youth Challenge" does an exceptional job of explaining the Challenge program to those who are not familiar with it while also boosting the morale of the Challenge staff.

Kelly Belmonte
via e-mail

Scarce DCUs

AS my unit recently prepared to deploy to Afghanistan, we encountered trouble getting DCUs issued due to the recent high demand.

When soldiers enter the Army, they receive two sets of hot-weather BDUs and two sets of temperate-weather BDUs. I can't speak for everyone, but the only purpose my temperate-weather uniforms have served is to occupy space in my wall locker.

Might the Army's money be better spent getting new soldiers the uniforms they'll be more likely to wear?

SSG Charles A. Gross
Camp Shelby, Miss.

For links to the Army News Service and Soldiers Radio Live, visit www.army.mil

Get DoD News at www.defenselink.mil

Afghanistan

Soldiers attached to a Combined Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force medical team and several Kuchi tribe members react as their tent is blown away during a windstorm near Gardez, Afghanistan, during Operation Warrior Sweep.

— Photo by SFC Larry E. Jahns

Iraq
SPC Frank Turner from the 82nd Airborne Division's 3rd Brigade takes part in a cordon-and-search operation in Baghdad.

— Photo by SPC Edwin M. Bridges

Iraq
A 101st Abn. Div. soldier keeps watch from atop the Mosul Police Academy.

— Photo by SGT Wes Rider

◀ Australia

PFC Joshua Finney from the 2nd Battalion, 27th Inf. Regt., qualifies at 100 meters with an Australian Army rifle during Exercise Pacific Bond 2003.

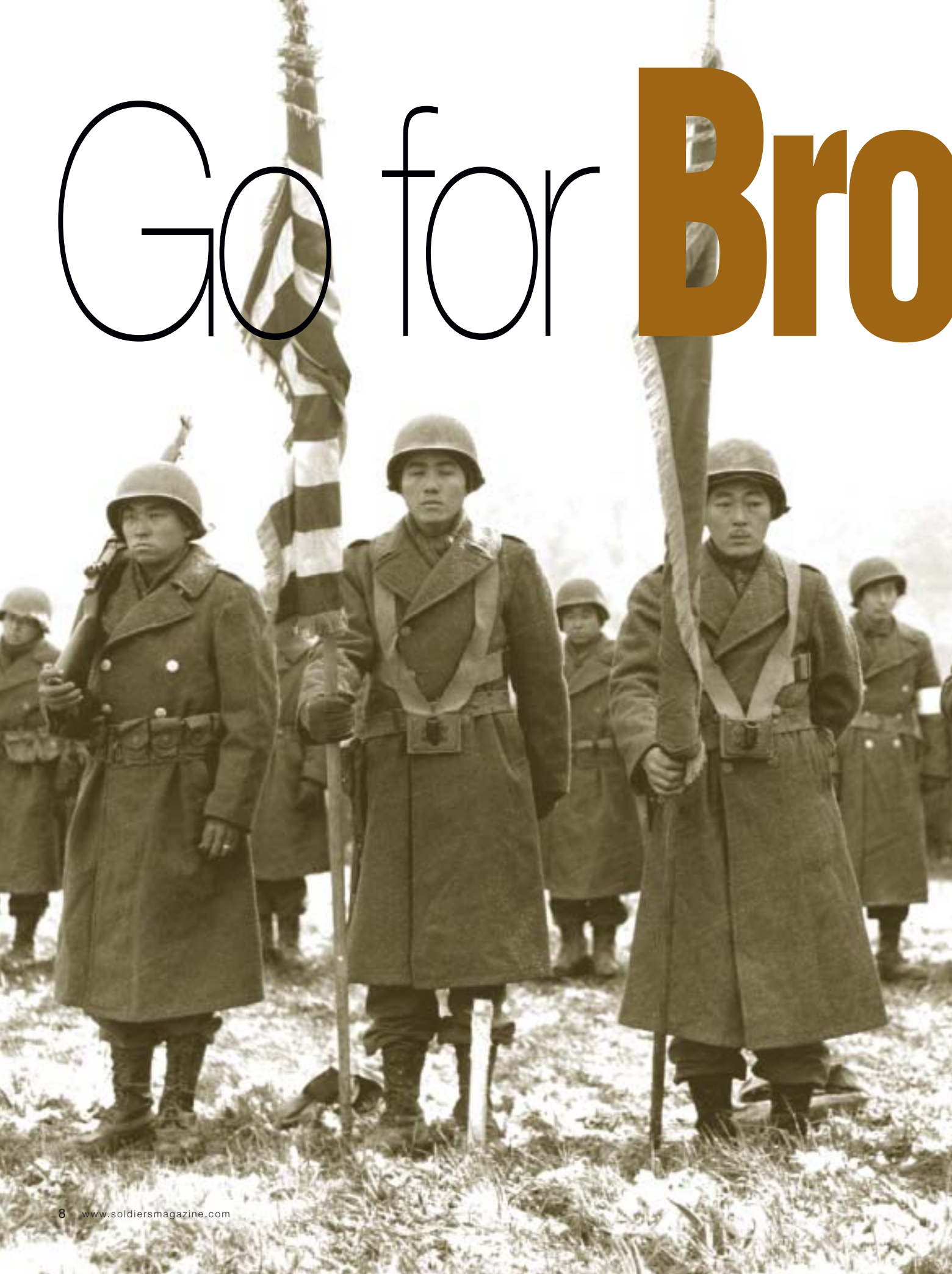
— Photo by SPC Sean Kimmons

▼ Kosovo

At Camp Bondsteel's demolition range SGT Bobby Atkinson *(left)* from the 717th Ordnance Company at Fort Campbell, Ky., supervises the placement of C4 explosive that will be used to destroy seized weapons and ammunition.

— Photo by SSG Jonathan Cole

Go for Bro



ke!

Story by Heike Hasenauer

WHEN the United States entered World War II following the Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, some 5,000 Japanese-Americans were serving in the U.S. armed forces, according to records of the National Japanese-American Historical Society.

In Hawaii, Japanese composed about 40 percent of the population. About 2,000 Japanese-American men in Hawaii, mostly second-generation Japanese known as Nisei, had been drafted into the Hawaii National Guard's 298th and 299th Infantry Regiments before the attack, said Hawaii resident Tokuji Ono, a Nisei war veteran and former member of the 298th.

Ronald Oba, another Nisei veteran from Hawaii, was 17 when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He remembers that on Friday, Dec. 5, his high school teacher told the class that Japan and the United States would be at war before the weekend was over.

"I didn't think much of it," said Oba, who witnessed the attack and told his story to Time magazine reporters for the March 2003 special issue, "Eighty Days That Changed the World."

He saw squadrons of airplanes circling and diving over

Heike Hasenauer

Veterans of the 100th Bn. *(left to right)* Ray Nosaka, Martin Tohara, Edward Ikuma and Tokuji Ono regularly meet at their club house to reminisce about the past and plan future events.

Color guards and color bearers of the 442nd Combat Team stand at attention while their unit citation is read. They are standing on ground in the Bruyeres area where many of their comrades died.

Heike Hasenauer

100th Inf. Bn. veterans *(left to right)* Martin Tohara, Ray Nosaka, Edward Ikuma and Tokuji Ono stand proudly beside the unit's original emblem.

A Japanese-American squad leader looks for German movements in November 1944.

Battleship Row. "I saw one of the planes drop a torpedo and witnessed the huge explosion that followed. Then I saw two Japanese fighters burning. One of them fell into a macadamia-nut orchard. Some other boys and I went to see what we could see.

"A truckload of soldiers came by and pulled a pilot out of one of the cockpits," Oba said, "and a piece of paper fell from his jacket with a red circle around every target the Japanese intended to hit. The paper also included the name of the pilot."

On Dec. 7 Inouye was getting dressed to go to church. When he turned on the radio by his bed he heard the shrill cries of the announcer: "This is no test. . ."

From Veteran to Senator

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii was 18 when Pearl Harbor was attacked. Fresh out of high school, he'd just enrolled at the University of Hawaii, where he planned to take pre-med courses. He'd also been teaching first aid at a Red Cross aid station in Honolulu.

On Dec. 7, Inouye was getting dressed to go to church. When he turned on the radio by his bed he heard the shrill cries of the announcer: "This is no test. Pearl Harbor is being bombed by the Japanese. I repeat, this is no test," Inouye wrote in his book, "Go for Broke," which was the motto of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, to which he belonged later in the war.

Inouye jumped on his bike and raced for a nearby aid station to help care for the wounded and dying.

"An old Japanese man grabbed the handlebars of my bike as I tried to maneuver around a group [of people]," Inouye wrote. "The man asked, 'Who did it? Was it the Germans? It must have been the Germans.'

"I shook my head, unable to speak …. My eyes filled with tears of pity for him and for all [the] frightened people," Inouye wrote. "[The Japanese Americans] had worked so hard. They had wanted so desperately to be accepted, to be good Americans. Now, in a few cataclysmic minutes, [their efforts were] all undone, and there could only be deep trouble ahead."

The day after the attack — and for many days thereafter — rumors abounded that the Japanese in Hawaii had cut a swath in the mountains, in the shape of an arrow that pointed to Pearl Harbor, and that they sabotaged the electric plant and water sources on the island, said Oba.

But a year later, the FBI, having investigated every rumor, reported that there had not been a single case of sabotage or espionage committed by Japanese residents in the islands, Oba said.

But no one had the facts on Dec. 7. All Japanese were suspect, Oba added, whether Issei, first-generation Japanese, or Nisei. That night, at midnight, an FBI agent arrived at the Buddhist temple near Pearl Harbor and arrested Oba's future father-in-law, a Buddhist priest. He was eventually taken to Tule Lake, in northern California, where the government interned Japanese-Americans it considered to be potentially dangerous.


Ronald Oba, 1944. . . and 1993

The Hawaii Territorial Guard arrested all Buddhist priests, and any other people who seemed to have an affiliation to Japan, Oba said. Among the 1,800 Issei who were rounded up and sent to mainland relocation camps were Japanese-language teachers, judo instructors, labor leaders, businessmen and newspaper reporters.

The discrimination against Japanese-Americans didn't end there. In January 1942, the War Department announced that all U.S. soldiers of Japanese ancestry would be released from active duty and that all civilians of Japanese ancestry employed by the Army would be suspended. In March, the department announced that Japanese-Americans would no longer be eligible for the draft. Classified as "4-C," they were considered "enemy aliens."

On the mainland, Japanese-American men, women and children were rounded up and placed in detention camps, Oba said.

Soldiers in the Hawaii National Guard were spared, as citizens felt they were desperately needed to defend the islands, said Raymond Nosaka, then a member of the 298th Inf. Regt.

Nosaka had been on guard duty at Schofield Barracks, on Oahu, when the Japanese aircraft appeared without warning over the mountains.

"I could see the bombs dropping and the black smoke

Nosaka Wedding Party 1943

filling the sky," Nosaka said. Soon after Schofield Barracks was hit, some 750 soldiers of the 298th were loaded onto trucks and taken to Oahu's Kaneohe Naval Air Station.

"From there, we broke off into squads, to set up machine-gun emplacements, one every 10 yards over one-half of the island's shoreline," Nosaka said.

After three months of manning his beach position, Nosaka was allowed to return to his home in Honolulu. But, even then, he said, "we had to return to our beach bunkers at night, and everything was under blackout.

"When I first went home, my room had been searched, and my dad left it alone so I could see it. He said the MPs had ransacked the room. I got really upset, because I hadn't done anything wrong. I wasn't a spy," Nosaka said.

"When I first went home, my room had been searched, and my dad left it alone so I could see it. He said the MPs had ransacked the room. . ."

The situation seemed to worsen when Army officials confiscated the soldiers' weapons and ordered the men to assemble in a hall at Schofield Barracks, where they were told they'd be taken elsewhere to form a new battalion, Nosaka said. "We were told, 'You won't become a labor branch. You'll be issued rifles.'

"But, at a time when every soldier was critical to the island's defense, the Army was scrambling to bring in reinforcements, and the Japanese were attacking Midway. We suspected the worst," Nosaka said.

The Birth of the 100th Infantry Battalion

On June 5, 1942, roughly 1,300 enlisted men and 29 officers of the new "provisional" battalion, composed of Nisei soldiers of the Hawaii Guard's 298th and 299th

Members of Company F, 2nd Bn., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, move out of the unit's old command post near St. Die, France, on Nov. 13, 1944.

A Team of Japanese-American G.I.'s throws 105mm shells at Germans in support of an infantry attack somewhere in France, Oct. 18, 1944.

Infantry regiments, were transported to Honolulu Harbor, where they boarded the California-bound troopship USS *Maui*, Nosaka said.

"When we landed in Oakland on June 12, everyone at the port thought we were prisoners," Nosaka said. The soldiers' own fears were quelled only after they arrived by train at Camp McCoy, Wis., for combat training. They were issued rifles and their provisional unit was, indeed, activated as the 100th Inf. Bn., Separate.

"'Separate' meant we had no parent unit," Nosaka said.

The men couldn't have known that the unit would go down in history as the first combat unit composed primarily of Japanese-American soldiers and be known as the "Purple Heart Battalion," because of the heavy number of casualties it suffered at Cassino, Italy. Nor could they have known that the 100th would earn the distinction of being the most highly decorated unit in U.S. military history, for its size, said Stanley Akita.

Akita is president of the 100th Inf. Bn. Veterans, which keeps alive the history of the 100th Inf. Bn. and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team — which later absorbed the 100th. "Remember Pearl Harbor" became the 100th's motto.

Before the rest of the battalion moved on to Camp Shelby, Miss., in January 1943, for more training, two small groups of soldiers from the battalion were sent on other, entirely different missions, Nosaka said.

Heike Hasenauer

Stanley Akita

From November to March 1943, about 80 of the soldiers were sent to the Army's language school, then at Camp Savage, Minn., to be trained as interrogators, interpreters and translators. The others were sent to Cat Island, off Mississippi's coast. Nosaka was among the latter group.

Upon arrival, he said, "We were introduced to Russian hounds, German shepherds and Doberman pinschers. We learned we were supposed to be dog bait. Each dog was assigned to an 'American-blooded' soldier, who was to teach his dog to attack 'Japanese-blooded' soldiers."

Keeping the Legacy Alive

BY the end of World War II the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was the most decorated unit of its size in U.S. military history, according to records of the National Japanese-American Historical Society.

There were more than 18,000 individual decorations for bravery, 9,500 Purple Hearts and seven Distinguished Unit Citations (now known as Presidential Unit Citations.

In June 2000 President Bill Clinton awarded 20 long-overdue Medals of Honor to veterans — or family members of deceased veterans — of the 100th Bn. and 442nd RCT, collectively.

Today, the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, is the only Army Reserve infantry unit. Headquartered at Fort Shafter on Oahu, it has units in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and Saipan.

As president of the 100th Inf. Bn. Veterans, Stanley Akita's goal is "to teach Americans and other nationalities that America isn't only for a certain group of people. If other immigrants have the same attitude we did, they can never be defeated in any endeavor," he said.

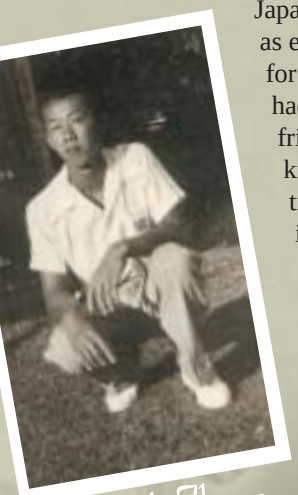
Akita encourages Japanese-Americans on the mainland, too, to address groups about the importance of learning from the past, "to preclude discrimination similar to that exhibited in America during World War II," he said. — *Heike Hasenauer*

> "We were taught from a very early age not to shame the family name or embarrass the family by being a coward. I think those ideals were the most important things we took into battle."

The secret project failed, Nosaka said, "because U.S. officials realized that Japanese blood doesn't smell any different than American blood." The fact that the Nisei soldiers' diet consisted of American food — not Japanese — played a part in the project's failure as well, he said.

A Combat Team of Nisei Volunteers

In January 1943, the War Department also announced it was accepting Nisei volunteers from Hawaii and the mainland to form a full-fledged combat team at Camp Shelby — the 442nd RCT.



Edward Ikuna

Japanese-Americans who had been classified as enemy aliens could now volunteer to fight for their country. Despite the hostility they had endured from neighbors and former friends after the Japanese attack — and the knowledge that their own country distrusted Japanese in general and had interned thousands — hundreds of Japanese Americans volunteered to fight for America, said Akita, who volunteered in March 1943 to be part of the new outfit.

More than 10,000 Japanese-Americans from Hawaii volunteered, and more than 2,600 were accepted, according to NJAHS records. They were to become replacements for fallen soldiers of the 100th Bn.

"A Honolulu police officer, who later became governor of Hawaii, came to my high school gymnasium, stood on the stage and addressed all the young people," Oba said. "He pointed his fingers at us and said, repeatedly, 'You must volunteer, to prove your loyalty.'

"As an 18 year old, I didn't take kindly to his words," Oba said, "because I was born an American, schooled as an American and speak English, so I must be an American. I didn't need to prove my loyalty."

The colors of the original 100th Infantry Battalion.

But as Oba's classmates volunteered, he realized he had to, too. "My country needed me," Oba said. "So, I volunteered for patriotism's sake. And I was among the first to be accepted.

"When we arrived at Camp Shelby, our superiors wouldn't let us off the trains until after dark, to allay the fears of Americans who hadn't seen Japanese before. Next morning, a newspaper headline read: 'Japs Invade Hattisburg,'" Oba said.

While Oba and other soldiers of the newly formed 442nd trained on the mainland, the 100th Bn. was overseas, "getting beat up pretty bad," Akita said.

The 100th had arrived in Oran, Algeria, in September 1944, where it was attached to the 34th Division, the first American division to land in Europe following America's declaration of war against the Axis powers, Akita said. German Field Marshall Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps had been beaten and driven out of Africa by the time the 100th arrived. And soldiers of the 100th had sailed with the 34th Inf. Div. to Salerno, Italy.

From that point, the unit endured nine long months of bitter fighting, from Salerno to Cassino to Anzio and on to the outskirts of Rome. That's where it met the 442nd.

Former Detainees Drafted

In January 1944, the War Department reinstated the draft of Japanese-Americans to bolster the ranks of the 442nd with Nisei from the detention camps across America, Akita said. And in June 1944, the 442nd RCT, which had landed in Naples, Italy, and pushed to the Anzio beaches, merged with the 100th Inf. Bn.

The 442nd was initially attached to the 34th Div. and

later to the 36th Div. of Seventh Army. It suffered its heaviest casualties during a four-day battle against German troops in October 1944.

In the course of battle, soldiers of the 442nd adopted the motto "Go for Broke." It meant, "risk everything, or nothing. Give everything you've got," Akita said.

Eventually, the 442nd RCT included the 442nd Inf. Regt., 522nd Field Artillery Bn., and the 232nd Combat Engineer Company — all Nisei units. And they fought racism as well as fascism, Akita said.

"What kept us all going was what we learned from our ancestors," Akita said. "We were taught from a very early age not to shame the family name or embarrass the family by being a coward. I think those ideals were the most important things we took into battle."

While the fear of dying was always present, Akita said the opportunity to fight for America gave him and other Nisei a great sense of pride. "I was struck by the fact that other American units had so much respect for us. They wanted soldiers of the 442nd next to them in combat."

Lessons from the Past

Even today, some 60 years later, tears well up in Akita's eyes as he reflects on the past.

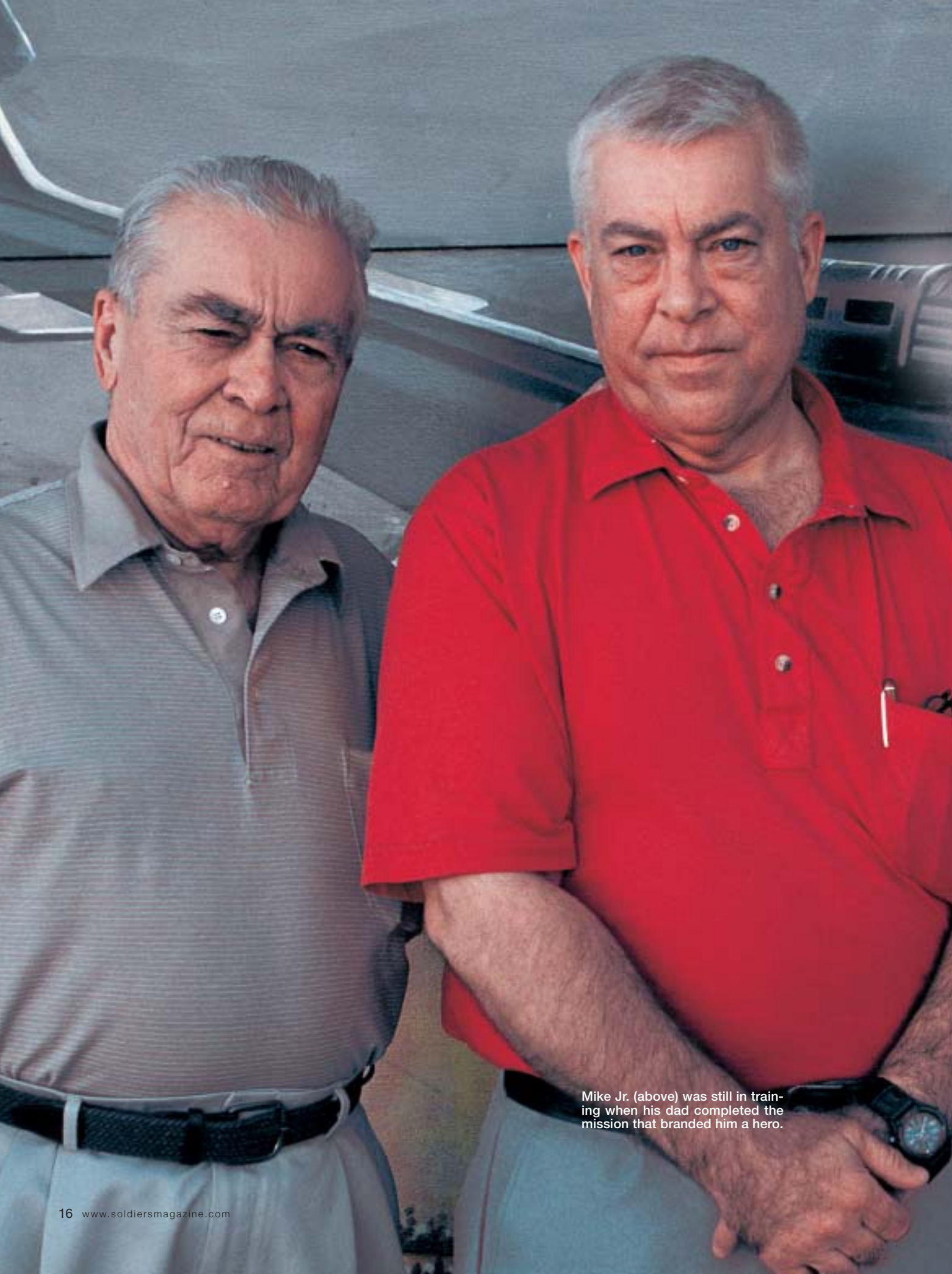
"We became heroes," he said, "after initially being treated like dirt. The discrimination of the time gave us a fighting spirit; we had something to prove to our neighbors — that we, and other Japanese-Americans not in the armed forces — were just as good Americans as they were."

"We've been told we were the bravest team that ever was," said Oba. "That bravery can be attributed to our Japanese traditions — from the samurai stories we learned as children, to the values that include devotion to family, humility and courage.

"In the end, it's the 'Go for Broke' attitude that has affected the way we have lived, and continue to live, our lives," Oba added.

"Every morning when I wake, I thank God I'm still alive," added Nosaka. "I'm still walking without a cane. I never complain about my food. I have no problems. When you've been to war, you know how fortunate you are."

Before the rest of the battalion moved on to Camp Shelby, Miss., in January 1943, for more training, two small groups of soldiers from the battalion were sent on other, entirely different missions, Nosaka said.



Mike Jr. (above) was still in training when his dad completed the mission that branded him a hero.

Father and Son at War

Story by Beth Reece

MICHAEL Novosel and his son Mike Jr. muse over Vietnam like old war buddies at a reunion.

"We were always being shot at. We expected it," Mike Jr. said of the rescue missions they flew together.

America didn't ask Mike Jr. to follow his father into war. He went willingly to flight school and later to Vietnam, where he volunteered as a "dustoff" pilot for the 82nd Medical Detachment.

The senior Novosel was the 82nd's medical-evacuation commander, a seasoned trainer who'd coached pilots to fly in the line of fire. He welcomed his son into the unit with more pride than fear of the dangers ahead.

"I wasn't overly concerned about the risk Mike was taking. I was confident in my ability to teach him the proper way of doing the work and surviving," Novosel said.

But in March of 1970, Mike Jr.'s UH-1 helicopter was shot down. His dad heard the "Mayday" call from 15 minutes away. With assurance from the aircraft commander that his son's crew had survived the crash and found shelter, Novosel completed his own mission before flying to their aid.

The younger Novosel returned the favor seven days later when his father was shot down. Just 19 at the time, Mike Jr. flew to his father's rescue.

"Saving one another was no big deal," Novosel said. "Saving lives was what we did."

Honoring the Humble

The 82nd Med. Det. had 12 pilots and six aircraft. The aviators didn't dream of reaping rewards, Novosel Sr. said. "None of us cared about getting medals. We were too fatigued to think about recognition."

Public praise came to the elder Novosel after the war, in 1971, when he was presented the Medal of Honor for his actions in Kien Tuong Province. Novosel flew his Huey into a hail of enemy fire to save the lives of 29 soldiers on Oct. 2, 1969. The wounded men — without weapons or radios — avoided direct fire by crouching low in elephant grass as Novosel hovered his aircraft close enough that crew members could reach down and pull them aboard.

"They were badly wounded," Novosel said. "One man's intestines were coming out, another had lost a hand, and another had been shot through the mouth."

The risky vocation of a dustoff pilot may seem like a death wish. But it was a job of necessity. And perhaps one of humbleness.

"When I look back and realize that I flew 2,543 missions — each one dedicated to saving lives — I wonder what was more important about that one occasion than all the others," Novosel said. "There were times when I'd saved 50 to 60 lives at a time. But this day I saved only 29. Only 29 — that clues you in on the thought process that goes along with doing this kind of work."

Mike Jr. was still in training when his dad completed the mission that branded him a hero.

> "There were times when I'd saved 50 to 60 lives at a time. But this day I saved only 29."

Throughout the war, Mike Jr. trusted that the techniques his father taught would keep him alive — tricks like flipping the tail of the aircraft into the direction of fire so bullets would have to travel through the body of the aircraft before entering the crew compartment.

"When we actually flew together, I didn't doubt for a second that the outcome would be good. I also had a lot of faith in the aircraft commanders he put me with because they'd all 'been there and done that'" Mike Jr. said.

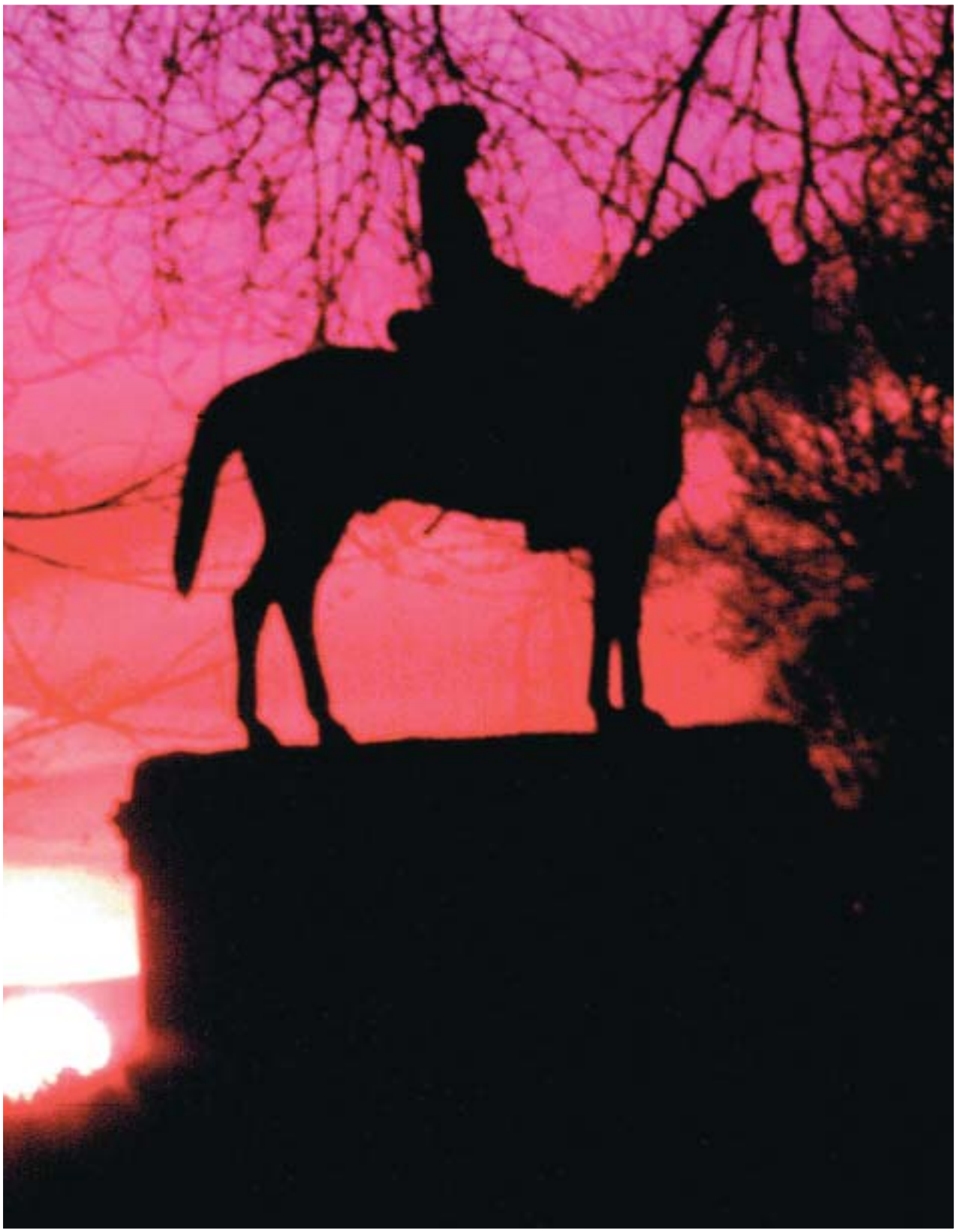
The Novosels are now retired warrant officers. Mike Jr. runs the Flight Line Café just outside Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The café's walls pay tribute to his dad and to aviation history through photographs and artifacts.

Mike Sr. divides his time between homes in Florida and Enterprise, Ala. His military adventures were published in 1999 in "Dustoff: The Memoirs of an Army Aviator."

Their combat days are over, but father and son reminisce about a past that makes them comrades as well as kin.

"When two guys from Vietnam meet they call it a reunion, but Dad and I have that everyday," Mike Jr. said. "My dad is an old friend from the war, an old combat buddy. How many fathers and sons share that?"

Gary Skidmore



Fort Riley's history is remembered through the Old Bill monument that adorns Cavalry Parade Field on Main Post.

Prairie Post Hits 150

Story by Bill McKale

ONE hundred fifty years ago Fort Riley, Kan., was established as a post from which soldiers of the 7th Cavalry could protect people and goods moving over the Oregon and Santa Fe tails from Indian attacks. Today the post is known as "America's Warfighting Center" and is home to elements of the 1st Armored and 1st Infantry divisions.

Bill McKale is the director of the Fort Riley Museum.

Quarters 24 is the only remaining set of officer's quarters from the fort's construction in the mid-1850s.

During the 1850s and into the Civil War period the fort was a staging area for soldiers dispersed along overland trails and near settlements. In 1892 the Cavalry and Light Artillery School was built at Fort Riley and, later, the Mounted Service School focused on training individual soldiers and officers rather than regiments.

During that same time period, the fort was selected as one of the installations to host the first large-scale combined maneuvers between regular and National Guard units.

The United States' entry into World War I established Fort Riley as a divisional training center and resulted in the construction of Camp Funston, where the 10th and 89th divisions, as well as elements of the 92nd Div., trained. Between the wars, the fort again became a center for instruction, training and summer camps.

After WWII Fort Riley's Camp Forsyth became home to the Cavalry Replacement Training Center, and a rebuilt Camp Funston was used by armored divisions. The Army General Ground School was created and operated until 1950 to teach new officers such common military skills as map reading, company administration and military law. The fort also operated one of the Army's first officer candidate schools.

During the Cold War years Fort Riley was home to the Aggressor School. Similar to the opposing force concept of today, the "aggressors" provided a realistic "enemy" force for unit training.

The 10th Inf. Div. was stationed at Fort Riley between 1948 and 1954 and conducted basic training for new recruits. In 1955 the post welcomed the 1st Inf. Div.

The "Big Red One" deployed soldiers to Southeast Asia in the mid-1960s, demonstrating that the post could equip, train and deploy soldiers worldwide. More recently, soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. and other Fort Riley units deployed to the Persian Gulf region for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991.

Today, Fort Riley continues its' 150-year tradition of training soldiers to protect and defend our nation. S

During the late 1800s and early 1900s wagons were used for many things, including transporting the wounded.

The 1st Cavalry commander rides his vehicle during a pass and review ceremony.

A view of Camp Funston during WWI.

Fort Riley
"America's Warfighting Center"

"Chief" the last cavalry horse at Fort Riley to be maintained on Army rolls died in 1968.

Gary Skidmore

Ft. Riley soldiers from 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, train for their deployment to Iraq in September 2003.

Mark Seminara

Thousands of Big Red One Soldiers stand at attention during a Division Review ceremony in 1975.

SSG Peter Rimar

FALLEN **FRIEND**

Somewhere Over the Atlantic

SGT Osvaldo Ortiz of the 82nd Airborne Division sleeps next to the transfer case and gear of a fallen friend aboard a C-17 Globemaster III bound for Dover Air Force Base, Del. Ortiz was accompanying the remains to the fallen soldier's home in Puerto Rico.

BRINGING **AFGHANISTAN** TO THE **CLASSROOM**

Bethesda, Md.

"SUPPORTING Our Troops in Afghanistan" has developed into more than a service-learning project for a group of middle-schoolers.

Students at Westland Middle School in Bethesda, Md., started a project to create care packages for service members in Afghanistan, and it grew from there.

School principal Ursula Hermann suggested having service members talk about their experiences in Afghanistan. The 249th Engineer Battalion from Fort Belvoir, Va., was contacted and its executive officer, MAJ Steven Cade, agreed to participate in the students' activities.

In May Cade went to the school with CW3 Jason Carlo, SFC Kevin McCrea, SSG Nicholas Mapp and SPC Martin Brown. The soldiers briefed students on the culture of Afghanistan and displayed equipment they used while deployed.

Students asked about Afghanistan's climate and

LTC Jeffrey Bady

people. After the presentation, the students assembled care packages containing disposable razors, cameras, candy and other personal items.

The 249th Engr. Bn. provides utility power wherever needed around the globe. It has deployed to the Middle East, Asia, Africa and South America, and also supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency during disaster-relief efforts.

— LTC Jeffrey Bady, 81st Regional Support Command, Birmingham, Ala.

BIRTH OF A NATION? ➤

Tallil Air Base, Iraq

IT was not a mission the New Orleans, La.-based 377th Theater Support Command expected, but when word came from the U.S. State Department to plan the first conference for the future leaders of Iraq at Tallil Air base, the unit quickly responded.

While hostilities still continued in many parts of Iraq, the people responsible for forging a new government met in the shadows of the 4,000-year-old Temple of the Moon ziggurat near the ruins of Ur — the Biblical city that was the reputed birthplace of Abraham.

Organizers selected the site for its historical significance. "I can't think of a better place to hold this conference than here, next to the birthplace of Abraham," said BG Jack C. Stultz, deputy commander of the 377th and forward commander of the 143rd Transportation Command in Orlando, Fla.

The intent was to use local resources including caterers, limousines, shuttle busses, conference centers with breakout rooms and other amenities to make the leaders of the new government feel welcomed.

The problem was that in a country wracked by decades of war, including two major bombing campaigns in just over 10 years, no such niceties existed.

"The local shuttle buses were jalopies, from the 1930s or 1940s," said MSG Donald McCrory. "The people requesting these supplies weren't in Iraq. They didn't know exactly what the situation was like."

LTC Mike Ford said the troops on the ground could not come close to fulfilling the needs of the conference, so they turned to the rear headquarters at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, where others quickly organized convoys to start movement of supplies needed to pull off the task.

Security was another issue as hostilities continued to rage near An Nasiriyah, just miles from the gate at Tallil. U.S. military personnel provided security during the setup and leading up to the actual conference, but then moved back to ensure the conference was viewed as an Iraqi event with little U.S. intervention.

The conference delegates were carefully selected and screened by State Department personnel. Only invited guests were allowed onto the grounds.

When the conference ended, delegates boarded busses to return home and continue the arduous task of forging a stable democracy in Iraq.

— CPT Bobby Hart, 143rd Trans. Cmd.

ENGINEER PLATOON ARRIVES IN AFRICA

Camp Lemonier, Djibouti

ARMY Reserve engineers from West Virginia have brought a new capability to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, in support of Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa's mission of detecting, disrupting and defeating terrorism and preventing the re-emergence of terrorism in East Africa.

A key element in the task force's counterterrorism mission is to make a difference in the lives of local people, said CPT Shawn P. McNabb, commander of the 463rd Engineer Detachment.

"One of the biggest ways we're going to help with counterterrorism is showing the local people that we are here to help," McNabb said.

McNabb said the soldiers can build just about anything the community needs, from schools and houses to beaches and roads. "About the only thing we can't do is asphalt paving," he said.

The engineers have brought a variety of skills and equipment to the task force, all of which are incorporated into one platoon with extensive heavy equipment.

The platoon, which includes masons, electricians and plumbers, focuses on constructing and outfitting houses, schools and other buildings.

The addition of such heavy equipment as bulldozers, dump trucks, graters and loaders adds to the ability to level terrain and landscape construction sites. This means the task force can extend its already highly successful civil-military operations into more projects in more areas.

As CJTF-HOA transitions to the execution phase of operations, the engineers will play a vital role in the TF's efforts to create a secure and stable environment, McNabb said.

"We get the opportunity to build things that will be here for years and that the people in the community will use," he said. "For us, that is the most fulfilling part of the job."

— SGT Matthew B. Roberson, CJTF-HOA Public Affairs Office

A Humvee rolls off the fast sealift ship USNS *Seay* at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. All of U.S. Pacific Command's surface-transportation needs are managed by the Hawaii-based 599th Transportation Group.

Terri Kojima


SWL 160 000

PACOM's Movement Masters

Story by Steve Harding

"In a sense, we are the '911' solution to any surface transportation or deployment requirement in the Pacific theater. That's what it all comes down to."

SGT Lisa Carpenter of the 599th's Okinawa-based 835th Trans. Bn. scans a container filled with Marine Corps cargo bound for a training area in northern Australia.

IF you had to pick one word to describe U.S. Pacific Command's area of responsibil ity, it would probably be "vast." The Honolulu-based joint command's AOR spans 10 time zones, 43 countries and more than 105 million square miles from Hawaii to the east coast of Africa.

And if you had to pick a second word to describe the organization that manages all of PACOM's surface-transportation needs, it would definitely be "small." The unit — the 599th Transportation Group — performs its challenging mission with just 213 full-time people.

Part of the Army's Military Traffic Management Command, the 599th is headquartered at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii. It has three forward-based transportation battalions — the 835th on Okinawa; the 836th in Yokohama, Japan; and the 837th in Pusan, South Korea — and small, specialized offices at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and on Guam. In total, the 599th consists of just 14 officers, 20 enlisted soldiers, 80 Department of the

Army civilians and 99 host-nation employees.

"We're a very small organization with a very big mission," said COL Peter J. Gitto, the group's commander at the time of Soldiers' visit.

"When PACOM has big, heavy things that need to be moved — whether for a deployment or an exercise — we make the arrangements and then execute the movement," Gitto said. "As PACOM's single-port manager we prioritize seaport workloads, maintain in-transit visibility of cargo and select ports, operating from both our fixed installations and deployed locations. We also provide such related ocean services as container management and cargo booking aboard commercial vessels."

Specialized Teams...

One way the 599th works to support PACOM's far-flung activities

The 599th has three transportation battalions — the 835th on Okinawa; the 836th in Yokohama, Japan *(seen above)*; and the 837th in Pusan, South Korea — and small, specialized offices at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and on Guam.

Members of the 599th go wherever necessary to aid in the loading and unloading of vital cargo. Here, unit members discuss the offloading of the containership *Maersk Constellation* in Brisbane, Australia, with the ship's chief officer.

Aviation maintainers begin to reassemble AH-64 Apaches shipped to Korea under the supervision of the 599th's 837th Transportation Battalion. The shipment of high-tech equipment is routine for the 599th and its subordinate units.

is through Deployment Support Teams.

Made up of small groups of soldiers and civilians drawn from throughout the larger organization, the DSTs are task-organized to support individual operations. Team members manage, document and synchronize the movement of cargo through the ports where they're assigned, and may deploy for up to several months at a time. DSTs from the 599th have most recently deployed to the Philippines, Korea, Thailand, Kuwait, the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia and ports in Europe.

Working in a remote location for months at a time can be challenging, said civilian traffic-management specialist John Fisher, especially when the DST deploys to a potentially hazardous area.

"The DST members — both military and civilian — may be required to carry weapons in certain areas, and that can really add an additional challenge," said Fisher, whose most recent DST mission took him to Subic Bay in the Philippines in support of Exercise Balikatan '03. "But on the other hand it's also enjoyable to go to different places and meet new people."

"It also helps that the unit makes sure that we are fully prepared for whatever the mission requires," added Samuel Ames, another of the 599th's civilian traffic-management specialists. "We are well trained to do the job, and the unit makes sure we have the best equipment possible — everything

> "We have no junior enlisted soldiers assigned to us; all are NCOs with anywhere from 10 to 18 years of experience. All that training, education and experience is extremely valuable in what we do."

Mark S. Rice

Don Larkin

The 599th's SGM Gonzoalo Rivera Jr. directs a vehicle onto a sealift ship following Exercise Cobra Gold in Thailand. Unit members travel throughout PACOM's AOR to manage cargo movements.

we need to do the job."

Among the things that help the DSTs work more effectively wherever they are is state-of-the-art communications equipment, Gitto said.

"The thing that really ties us all together and allows us to keep in touch is our ability to communicate," Gitto said. "Our comm systems are all configured in 'fly-away' packages that our DSTs can take with them. Each package supports both secure and nonsecure communications, and really ensures that we all know what's going on in each of the remote locations — a necessity for command and control."

Terri Kojima

The 599th routinely supports deployments by the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division. One of the unit's OH-58D Kiowas is seen here after returning to Honolulu from a deployment to Bosnia.

...And Special People

Much of the 599th's success in its widely scattered operations is due to the creativity and initiative of its diverse and professional workforce, unit members agree.

"It's all about professionalism and individual initiative," Gitto said. "Take our young officers, for example. When they're in command of a DST in a remote area, they have to be

Tracking the movement of cargo is made easier through the use of bar codes. Here, SGT Norberto Lucio of the 837th Trans. Bn. scans data during an offload in Gladstone, Australia.

> "Our DA civilians provide a tremendously valuable continuity for the organization through their experience and their ability to pass that experience on to our military people."

able to make decisions quickly and accurately, without guidance from higher headquarters. They need to be innovative and creative, and the experience they gain on each operation is extremely valuable during successive deployments."

The same experience and professionalism is found in the 599th's enlisted soldiers, said group SGM Gonzalo Rivera.

"We are very fortunate in that we have a lot of quality soldiers who have a great deal of experience and knowledge," he said. "We have no junior enlisted soldiers assigned to us; all are NCOs with anywhere from 10 to 18 years of experience. All that training, education and experience is extremely valuable in what we do."

In many ways, Gitto said, the 599th's civilians are the backbone of the organization.

"Our DA civilians provide a tremendously valuable continuity for the organization through their experience and their ability to pass that experience on to our military people," he said. "And our emergency-essential civilians, who train and deploy side by side with our military people, are absolutely indispensable. So are our host-nation employees, who provide a great deal of cultural expertise and bring a great deal of loyalty and dedication to the job."

Given the vastness of the 599th's AOR, Rivera said one of his biggest challenges is ensuring that all of the unit's members are trained to the same level of competence.

"Because we deploy as task-organized elements, we pull the people we need from throughout the organization," Rivera said. "That allows us to avoid depleting the resources of any one battalion, while ensuring that we spread the training and mission opportunities throughout the group. But it also means that for the DST commanders to feel confident that whomever is assigned to their team is trained to the same standard, we all have to train to that standard for both individual and collective tasks."

It's All About Force Projection

The ultimate reason for all that the 599th and its people do, Gitto said, is force projection.

"An important element of our national strategy is the ability to quickly and effectively project our combat power — both people and equipment — wherever it's needed," he said. "And the way we project that force is by air and surface deployment. Since most of our nation's forces are deployed by sea — especially in PACOM's AOR — without a unit like this to prepare and deploy units, our national strategy is lacking.

"In a very real sense, the single most important element that the 599th provides is what we call 'in-transit visibility,'" Gitto added. "That means we are always able to tell the warfighters where their force is and when they can expect its arrival where they need it to be."

"In a sense," Rivera added, "we are the '911' solution to any surface transportation or deployment requirement in the Pacific theater. That's what it all comes down to."

Around the Services

Compiled by SSG Alberto Betancourt from service reports

Air Force

An HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter with the 56th Rescue Squadron flies into the sunset during external sling load training in Iceland.

Navy

Former President George H.W. Bush's initials get permanently affixed to the keel of the ship named after him. The 21st century warship will feature numerous engineering and technology improvements, and is slated to be the 10th and final Nimitz-class nuclear powered carrier.

Marines

A Marine KC-130 fires flares to counter attack surface to air missiles in Iraq.

Coast Guard

A Coast Guard HH-65B Dauphin helicopter retrieves aircrew members during water survival certification conducted off the coast of Atlantic City, N.J.

Executive Protection

Story by SFC Lisa Gregory Photos by SFC Alberto Betancourt

...ive Services Unit

The PSU operates much like the U.S. Secret Service, but with the specific goal of protecting Department of Defense leaders. The unit is, in fact, DOD's premier provider of executive-protection services.

THE Army chief of staff leaves his vehicle and safely enters a building somewhere in the world. Before this simple act can occur, agents from the Department of the Army's Protective Services Unit must plan and coordinate the trip, conduct a threat assessment, tour the routes and the destination, and conduct motorcade operations to ensure the dignitary's safety during his visit.

Protecting the Army's senior officials became the mission of the Office of the Provost Marshal General in 1967, during the height of the Vietnam War. The "principals," a term used by PSU agents to identify the people they protect, were the secretary and chief of staff of the Army. The protective service mission was assigned to the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command in 1971.

The mission expanded over the years, and today includes the protection of the secretary and deputy secretary of defense; the chairman and vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the secretary, chief of staff and vice chief of staff of the Army; and their foreign counterparts when they are on official U.S. visits.

"The PSU's mission is to protect these officials and their foreign counterparts from assassination, embarrassment, kidnapping or injury," said CPT Tom Denzler, PSU commander.

The PSU operates much like the U.S. Secret Service, but with the specific goal of protecting Department of Defense leaders. The unit is, in fact, DOD's premier provider of executive-protection services.

CW4 Bill Wiser, the PSU's operations officer, said the unit is part of the 701st Military Police Group, at Fort Belvoir, Va. PSU often accomplishes its mission through cooperation with, or assistance from, the Army Criminal Investigation Command and its 6th, 202nd and 701st MP Groups, and agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

Denzler also credits the National Guard and Reserve units that augment the unit.

"Since the horrific events of Sept. 11, 2001, our reliance on reserve-component soldiers has been incredible. We can't accomplish our mission without them, because our workload has increased by threefold," he said.

Agents from 11 different Army National Guard and Army Reserve units have augmented the PSU during the last 18 months. These agents, many of whom have a wealth of military and civilian law-enforcement expertise, arrive at the PSU and hit the ground running, Denzler added. "Their performance and motivation is a testament to the value of reserve-component CID agents."

CW2 Randall Elrod, a Reservist from Boston, Mass., has been working with the PSU for 18 months.

"I was initially called up after Sept. 11, 2001, for one year and I've volunteered for a second year," he said. "CID has really gone beyond the total Army concept by making this one big unit. The command ensures that active-duty and reserve-component soldiers are treated equally, and when soldiers deploy, their family matters have been taken care of."

Before agents are assigned to the PSU, they must complete the CID Special Agent Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and must have completed a one-year apprenticeship in the field.

"This gives an agent at least one

"We measure success by quiet days, by protecting our seven principals and keeping each other safe . . . Our agents always have to be ready to react."

challenging tour in the field," said Wiser. "The unit has grown over the years, and there's a good chance that if a soldier starts his career as a young agent, he'll eventually be assigned here," he added.

Wiser said not all agents begin their careers in the military police, but they should be specialists or above, 21 years old and have at least 60 semester hours of college credit to be considered for an assignment as an agent.

Once assigned to the unit, agents work as part of the Washington, D.C., Metro team.

"Agents are assigned to the Metro team for about a year," Denzler said. "They conduct residence watches, control-room operations, motorcade operations and close-in protection. Once they've reached a required proficiency level, they move to a travel team, providing protection overseas, often in a high-threat area, so the challenges are multiplied," he added.

Some agents see the opportunity for travel as a plus. "In fiscal year 2002 our agents traveled to more than 40 countries. It takes a great deal of time and a number of agents to execute these missions, and we couldn't do it without dedicated people," Denzler said.

Overseas missions are coordinated with U.S. embassies and host-nation security officials, Wiser said.

"We work closely with the embassies overseas, since they're able to facilitate mission success through their knowledge of the country and ability to provide liaison with other host-nation agencies," he said. "For example, if we have a civilian principal, we may have local civilian police assistance, and military assistance for a military principal."

As in any other military job, ongoing training is important for PSU agents.

"We send agents to several courses to equip them with a wide variety of skills," Wiser said. "Some of the courses — such as protective services and evasive driving — are conducted at the Army Military Police School. We've also sent agents to courses offered by the Marine Corps and the FBI, and use some civilian companies for enhancement training in things such as marksmanship."

Getting agents from basic training to protecting the secretary of defense also requires the assistance of senior agents.

"Most agents are a little awestruck the first time out," said Denzler. "Working on the Metro team helps them become accustomed to interacting with high-level dignitaries. They're making daily trips to the White House or Capitol Hill, and working with seasoned agents."

"The agents give you information

PSU agents complete a variety of courses to equip them with the skills needed for the job.

Protecting the Army's senior officials became the mission of the Office of the Provost Marshal General in 1967.

about the job that instructors don't always give you in training." said PSU's SGT Derek Lindbom. "It's more in-depth because it's just you and the agent. They show you how to adapt to the job. At first the job may seem intimidating, but you get used to that, and working with other agents helps."

Denzler said that working with the PSU is a tremendous opportunity. Agents find themselves in close proximity to their assigned principals.

"It's not uncommon for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff or the secretary of defense to turn to an agent and ask, 'What do you think?' That's a unique characteristic of this job," he added.

Today, U.S. military personnel around the world face danger while performing their duties. PSU agents not only face the danger, but must protect their assigned principals.

Lindbom said being a PSU agent isn't something that stops at the end of the workday.

"We're always on alert, even when we're off duty," he added.

Getting through each day without incident is something each agent is trained to do.

"We measure success by quiet days, by protecting our seven principals and keeping each other safe, whether in Washington, D.C., or Bagram, Afghanistan," Denzler said. "It may not always be exciting, but our agents always have to be ready to react."

The Army's Criminal Investigation Division

During peace and war, CID special agents investigate all felony crimes in which the Army has an interest. CID also provides protective services for Department of Defense and Army officials, and works closely with other federal and local law-enforcement and intelligence agencies to solve crimes and combat terrorism.

To become a CID agent an applicant must:

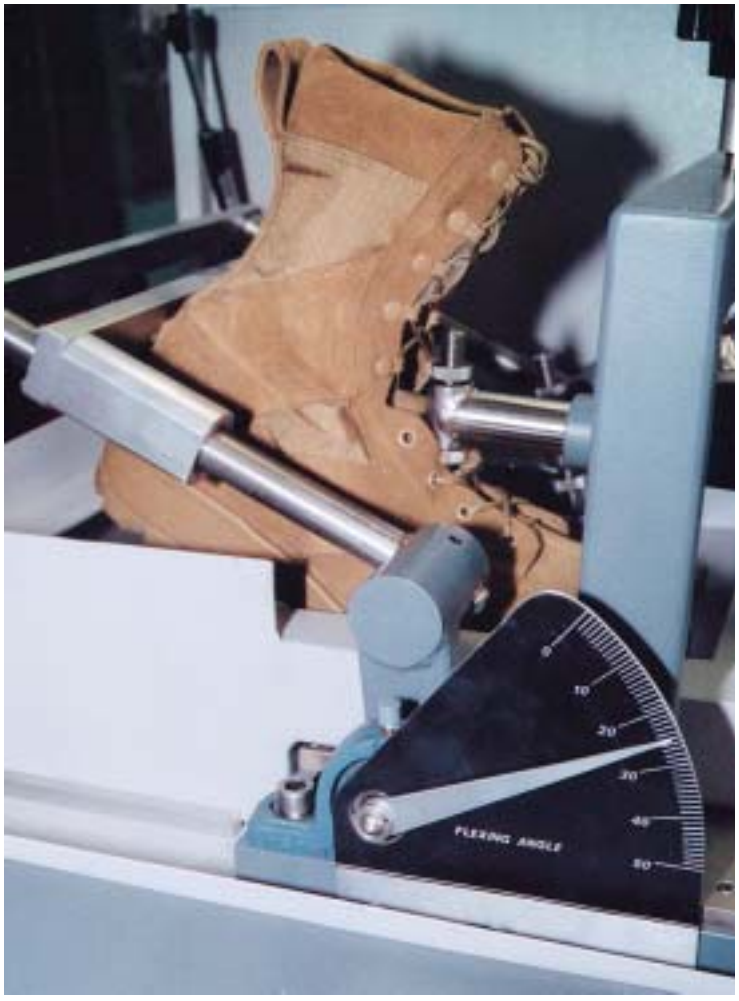
1. be a U.S. citizen;
2. be at least 21 years old;
3. be an E-5 or below with at least two years, but not more than 10 years of service;
4. have a general technical score of 110;
5. have no court martial convictions;
6. have 60 semester hours of college credit;
7. have a physical profile of 111221 or higher
8. have normal color vision;
9. have 36 months of obligated service upon completion of the Basic Special Agent Course;
10. and be able to obtain and maintain a top-secret clearance.

Soldiers interested in becoming agents should contact their closest CID offices.

Additional information can be found on the World Wide Web at the home page of the Army's Criminal Investigation Division

www.cid.army.mil

Although most agents have a military police background, it's not a prerequisite for admittance to the program. CID offers six-month internships at several installations for soldiers without law-enforcement experience.



COUNTERING **NERVE AGENT**

FOR more than 15 years military officials sought the Food and Drug Administration's approval of a drug that combats the deadly nerve agent soman.

In February 2003 pyridostigmine bromide — dispensed in blister packs to some 250,000 U.S. service members during the first Gulf war because of a soman threat in the Persian Gulf region, but not FDA-approved to counter nerve agent at the time – got the FDA's seal of approval.

The drug was first approved by the FDA as a treatment for myasthenia gravis, a chronic neuromuscular disease. British researchers proposed using PB as a protection against soman in the late 1970s.

PB must be taken before exposure to soman and is used with the nerve-agent antidote injector kit. Every service member deployed to a high-threat area is given a seven-day supply of PB, and units have an additional seven-day supply for every soldier.

Soldiers can take the drug longer than 14 days if the risk of exposure is great and leaders deem it necessary, but they don't have to take PB continuously to benefit from it. — *Fort Detrick Standard*

BEATING UP **BOOTS**

IT'S easy to determine whether the insides of boots have gotten wet after the boots have been standing in a pool of water and tossed around thousands of times.

Researchers simply remove pieces of absorbent paper that were tucked inside the boots.

"We beat the heck out of boots here," said Michael Holthe, lead project engineer for footwear programs at the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass. "They have to be durable, but also help soldiers perform their jobs."

The whole shoe flexer, modified for water penetration testing, is among a collection of machines in the Footwear Performance Laboratory that mercilessly tests boots. The only Defense Department facility of its kind, it's been operating for more than a year and is a central location for technical testing and research and development for all military footwear, Holthe said.

Military boots are categorized as extreme cold-, cold-wet-, temperate-, hot-wet- and hot-dry-weather, and blast protective. The only footwear SSC doesn't test is chemical-biological protective.

Besides the Infantry Combat Boot, other current and pending projects for the boot-testers include the Improved Hot-Weather Combat Boot for the Army, the Army's new modular footwear program and improved blast- protective footwear.

Equipment in the lab is used to check footwear for heat insulation, shock attenuation, pressure distribution, water penetration, flex resistance and dynamic stiffness.

Research has shown that footwear that can properly absorb shock results in fewer lower-leg injuries and less down time for soldiers. — *U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center*

For more information about SSC, visit the organization's Web site at www.natick.army.mil.

INSECTARY AIDS RESEARCH ➤

Doug Valentine (both)

THE insectary at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Maryland painstakingly breeds tens of thousands of insects every week.

The institute breeds aedes, anopheles and culex mosquitoes used in research toward development of repellents, drugs and vaccines to protect service members from such diseases as dengue fever, malaria and encephalitis.

The Defense Department has about a dozen insectaries around the globe; however, WRAIR's, established in 2000, is one of the largest and most elaborate, said COL Daniel Strickman, chief of its entomology department.

Infected mosquitoes — kept under lock and key to protect employees — are used in human-volunteer studies to test the effectiveness of drugs and vaccines.

Female mosquitoes are used in experiments; males are simply studs. But before they'll breed, female mosquitoes need a blood meal, which comes in from the belly of anesthetized hamsters. The female mosquitoes then mate and lay eggs.

The lab's weekly demand of aedes aegypti mosquitoes alone is roughly 4,000.

Because troops are deployed to Southwest Asia, where leishmaniasis-carrying sand flies flourish, the insectary's expertise with the phlebotomine family is being tapped. Lab researchers have been able to determine that 1.5 percent of the sand flies in Southwest Asia test positive for leishmaniasis.

Visceral leishmaniasis, which affects the spleen and liver, can take months to develop, and is considered fatal if left untreated. For this reason, military health providers need to know what to look for and how to treat it.

Lab data alert commanders to potential health risks to their soldiers, and help ensure precautions — such as treating tents, spraying pesticides and stressing to soldiers the importance of using insect repellent — are taken to prevent disease. — *Karen Fleming-Michael, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Public Affairs Office*

◄ QUICK FIX TOOL ROOM

THE Stryker Brigade Combat Team likely wouldn't be as effective without the relatively new Field Repair System, according to soldiers who used the system during training at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

The mobile tool room and work station offers welding capability, has work lights and "more tools than you can imagine," said FRS operator SPC Brandon Schmidt of the Stryker Brigade's Field Maintenance Company at Fort Lewis, Wash. The FRS includes a lot of tools that basic-issue tool boxes don't have.

Schmidt said the FRS plays an important role in the new SBCT because it helps the company address mechanical problems faster and thereby function more efficiently in the field. — *SPC Alfredo Jimenez, 28th Public Affairs Detachment*

Thurs. Nov. 27 is Thanksgiving

Holiday

TIPS FOR **COOKING** A **SAFE BIRD**

KEEP your Thanksgiving poison-free. The U.S. Department of Agriculture outlines food-handling tips to help cooks prepare turkeys that won't cause sickness. By following four steps — clean, separate, cook and chill — Thanksgiving dinner can be delicious and safe.

Clean – Wash hands with hot, soapy water before and after handling poultry. Thoroughly clean cutting boards, work surfaces and utensils that come in contact with poultry.

Separate – Keep poultry away from food that won't be cooked. Never place cooked food on an unwashed plate that previously held raw poultry.

Cook – Use a food thermometer to ensure that the turkey has been cooked at a temperature that's high enough to destroy bacteria. The temperature inside a whole turkey should reach 180 degrees Fahrenheit between the breast and the innermost part of the thigh. The turkey breast temperature should reach 170 degrees in the thickest part of the breast. Turkey thighs and wings should reach 180 degrees in the thickest part of the meat. Stuffing, cooked alone or in the bird, should reach 165 degrees in the center.

Chill – Refrigerate or freeze leftovers within two hours to keep foodborne bacteria from growing.

— U.S. Department of Agriculture

For more guidelines call the USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline at (888) 674-6854 or visit www.fsis.usda.gov.

Health

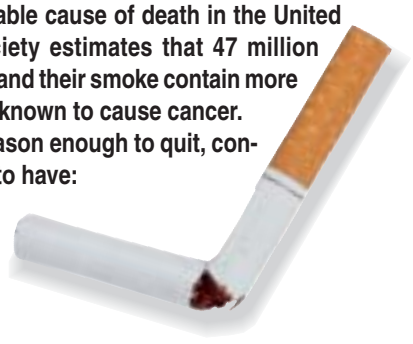
KICK THE **HABIT**

READY to quit? Join the millions of smokers who say "no" to cigarettes Nov. 20 during the 26th annual Great American Smokeout. The event encourages smokers to kick the habit for 24 hours in hopes they'll give it up for good.

Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates that 47 million American adults smoke. Cigarettes and their smoke contain more than 4,000 chemicals, including 43 known to cause cancer.

If the risk of lung cancer isn't reason enough to quit, consider that smokers are more likely to have:

- **premature wrinkling,**
- **stained teeth,**
- **bad breath,**
- **brittle bones, and**
- **yellow fingernails.**



Smokers who cling to this deadly addiction for stress relief may want to consider replacing tobacco with exercise, since quitters who stay active are more likely to stay motivated.

Check your installation health clinic for smoking-cessation classes and local Smokeout events, and for more information visit **www.cancer.org** or **www.cdc.gov/tobacco**

Health

CHILDHOOD OBESITY ON THE RISE

OBESITY is epidemic in the United States, according to the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Today there are nearly twice as many overweight children and almost three times as many overweight adolescents as in 1980. Results of the 1999 National Health and Nutrition Examination revealed that 13 percent of children and adolescents were overweight. The major causes are poor dietary habits and inactivity.

Beyond being teased and having low self-esteem, overweight children are more likely to suffer from high blood pressure, asthma, type 2 diabetes, orthopedic complications, hypertension and sleep apnea.

Eat Right & Exercise

Parents can encourage healthy lifestyles in children by creating safe food environments and fostering positive behaviors about weight, experts say. Get rid of tempting snacks and sodas, and expose children to a variety of healthy foods. Parents should also encourage children to spend at least 30 minutes playing outside and limit the time they watch TV.

For more information and tips on weight maintenance, check out www.cdc.gov and www.obesity.org.

Veterans

JOIN A CLUB

VETERANS service organizations give veterans a chance to connect to other veterans and share experiences. VSOs also give veterans a way to network and encourage patriotism in civilian communities. Some VSOs offer such special benefits as scholarships for family members and discounts on goods and services.

To locate a VSO near you, check out the Department of Veterans Affairs' online directory at www.va.gov/vso

HAPPY VETERANS DAY

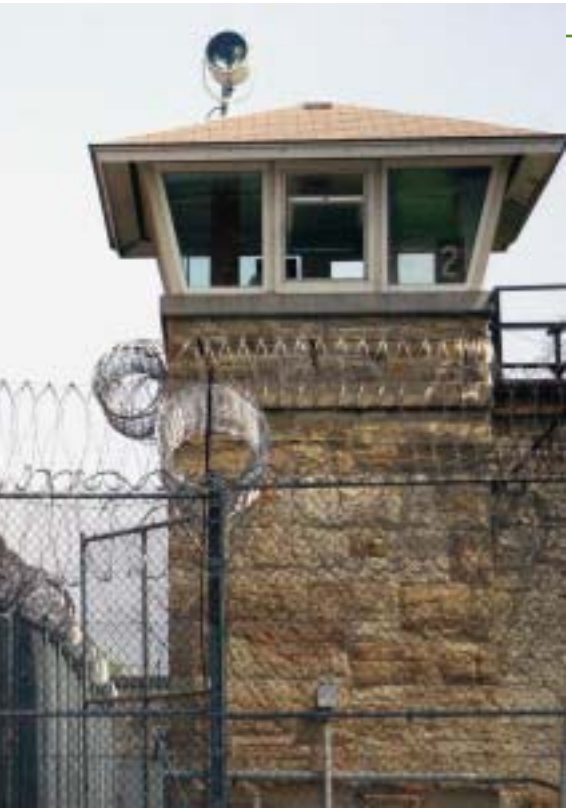
VETERANS Day was formerly called "Armistice Day," and has been celebrated since 1926 to honor those who have served in America's armed forces.

Sharp Shooters

SINCE the completion of a new U.S. Disciplinary Barracks last fall, the original historical USDB located at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, stands empty and idle. The facility that at one time housed nearly 1,700 prisoners, now periodically opens its' doors, allowing visitors to witness its past. SPC Adrian A. Lugo, a photojournalist with the Fort Leavenworth Public Affairs Office, gives us a "through-the-lens" look of the facility.

A special housing unit cell where inmates were moved for their own protection or protection of other inmates in the general population.

This row of cells is just one of many in the former maximum-security prison. The operational capacity was nearly 1,503 inmates. An inmate's average age was 34 years and the average sentence was nearly 20 years.



Once used to watch over inmates in the courtyard, this guard tower now stands empty.

A corrections specialist walks down the steps of the trusty unit.

Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to: **Photo Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Digital images should be directed to: **alberto.betancourt@belvoir.army.mil**. All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

When Positive is a Negative

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

SSG Shannon Brown of Tripler Army Medical Center's Company A in Honolulu, Hawaii, waited in a stark classroom — a designated holding area behind the hospital — for the Unit Prevention Leader to call his name.

When she did, Brown handed her his ID card, confirmed some personal statistics and removed his uniform jacket to show nothing was concealed underneath. She handed him a bottle, had him affix his Social Security number to it and sent him down the hall, shadowed by a designated observer, to provide a urine sample, in a designated, previously checked latrine.

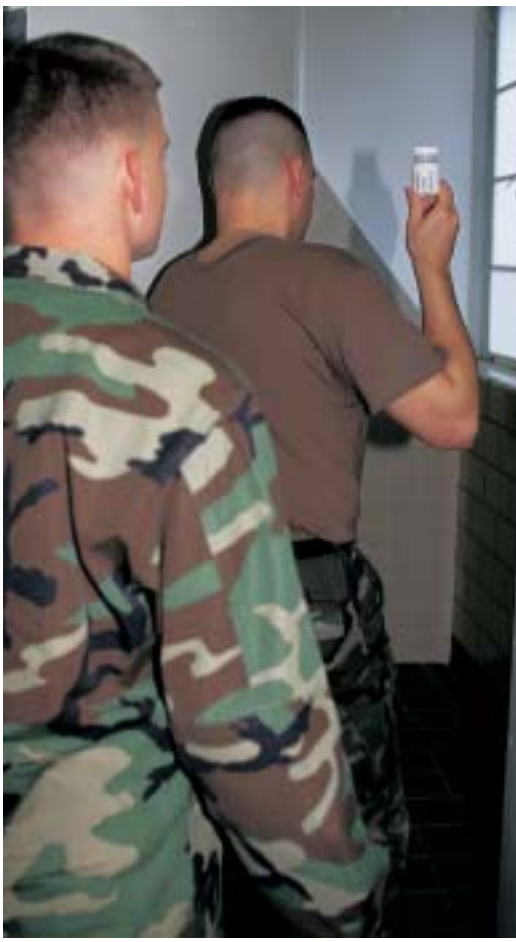
The procedure happens every day somewhere across the Army. And somewhere, soldiers are sweating the impending consequences of what they did a night or two before.

Consequences for Users

Army policy dictates that all soldiers who test positive for drugs will be processed for separation, said MSG Kimberly Henry of the Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs in Alexandria, Va., the office that establishes policy guidance for the Army's substance-abuse prevention program.

Commanders may consider a soldier's rank and military record, and show more tolerance for lower-ranking soldiers whose urinalysis comes up positive than they do for career officers.

At Tripler Army Medical Center's Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Center, state-of-the-art technologies are used to test each soldier's urine specimen for at least four different drugs.



Designated observers play a critical role in the collection process. The observer is responsible for the integrity of the urine specimen, and must actually watch the urine leave the soldier's body.

In determining a soldier's fate, commanders also consider behavior — such as theft, violence and drug dealing — that may have been related to the drug use, said MAJ Timothy Lyons, commander of TAMC's Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratory. The bottom line is "there has to be a penalty for drug use if you're going to have a deterrence program," he said.

"At my level, I must initiate action to separate soldiers who have positive urinalysis reports," said CPT James Joyner III, commander of TAMC's Co. A. "But my superiors determine whether or not to eliminate soldiers or rehabilitate them, according to guidance provided in Army Regulation 600-85."

Of 410 soldiers in Joyner's company, four tested positive for drugs last year — three had used marijuana and one had abused prescription drugs.

Drug-Use Statistics

While records indicate an overall positive rate of one percent for active-duty soldiers in 2000, the percentage has been slightly higher over the past three years, at 1.3 percent, Lyons said. It doesn't sound like much, but more than 9,000 active-duty soldiers are discharged every year — roughly half of a division — for illicit drug use.

SSG April Norton, the Unit Prevention Leader for TAMC's Co. A, performs necessary administrative checks before urine specimens are boxed and sealed.

Their drug use might very well have affected not only their own performance of duties but other soldiers' performance as well, Lyons said.

Despite changes to the testing system since the 1970s, the drug of choice hasn't changed. It's still

The FTDTL is not only responsible for testing for drugs, but also for generating legal documents and providing expert witnesses at boards and court-martial proceedings.

To help ensure accurate and reliable test results, workers in TAMC's drug-testing laboratory compare computer printouts with the information on the labels affixed to the specimen bottles.

marijuana, said Lyons. It's followed by cocaine, amphetamines (including methamphetamines) and ecstasy. And 18- to 22-year-old soldiers are most likely to abuse the drugs, with the highest incidence of drug use found in new recruits at Military Entrance Processing Centers.

Lyons said young soldiers are easily tempted because marijuana and other drugs are readily available and relatively inexpensive.

Urinalysis Procedures

Under the Defense Department's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program, individual commanders determine when to test their soldiers. "It's their program," Lyons said.

Some commanders choose to test at 100 percent, Henry said, because random testing of only a percentage of soldiers can mean that some soldiers are tested repeatedly and others aren't tested at all.

Whether the tests are conducted on a monthly or bimonthly basis, or less frequently, and include an entire unit or a percentage of the unit, the time sequence cannot be predictable, Henry said.

The urinalysis process begins when a unit commander notifies his Unit Prevention Leader that he'd like to conduct a drug test. Every unit has a UPL, who must be an NCO, Joyner said.

The UPL performs the function as an additional duty. If the commander elects to test 10 percent of his soldiers, the UPL would identify them through a computer printout and notify the soldiers on the "hit list" no more than two hours before the test, Joyner said.

A stringent process follows, from the moment the soldier enters a holding area, where administrative checks are performed, to the time the filled specimen bottle is returned to the UPL, said SSG April Norton, UPL for TAMC's Co. A.

The designated observer plays a critical role in the procedure, Norton said. Because the observer is responsible for the integrity of the urine sample, he must actually watch the urine leaving the soldier's body, Henry added.

When a sample is returned to Norton, she checks it to be sure it's warm and that there's been no tampering with the bottle cap. She seals the bottle and initials it, and the observer signs a unit ledger, which can be used in legal proceedings as sworn affidavit that he observed the soldier urinate in the bottle, Henry said.

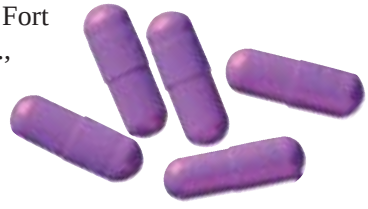
Samples are boxed and delivered by the UPL to the Army Substance Abuse Program, ASAP. In Hawaii, that office is located at Schofield Barracks. There the Social Security number and other information is again checked, the boxes of specimens are sealed and numbered to indicate the regions from which they originated, and the UPL again initials the box.

"We then take custody of the samples," said Domie Tuazon, assistant ASAP program coordinator. "We keep a log of the boxes and place them in locked storage until a driver picks them up to deliver to the drug-testing lab."

The FTDTL at Tripler

The lab is one of only two drug-testing labs Armywide. As such, it tests urine specimens for all Army units west of the Mississippi River, all Army National Guard units, wherever they're located, and Fort Bragg, N.C., said Lyons.

A lab at Fort Meade, Md.,



> The turnaround time for a specimen report is typically three days, or six days when a urine sample tests positive for drugs.

In FTDTL's specimen-processing area, workers pour the urine into tubes, which are then placed in the screening analyzer. The device can perform an initial screening on up to 7,000 specimens per hour.

analyzes urine specimens from Army units east of the Mississippi and all Army Reserve units, plus those from Department of the Army civilians worldwide, he said.

Together, the two labs test some 2.6 million specimens annually, Lyons said. And the turnaround time for a specimen report is typically three days, or six days when a urine sample tests positive for drugs. In the latter case, tests are repeated and performed on more concentrated levels of the urine sample.

For Lyons and 70 civilian pharmacologists, chemists, medical technologists and technicians, the intensive urinalysis process — something that was the topic of debate, ridicule, even humor when the program began during the Vietnam era — is serious business, he said. A mistake made in the lab could cost a soldier his career.

The FTDTL is not only responsible for testing urine samples for drugs, but also for generating legal documents and providing expert witnesses at boards and court-martial proceedings.

"We testify in about five cases per month," Lyons said.

Most of the time, soldiers attempting to vindicate themselves will suggest that someone else put something in their drinks, Lyons said.

Protecting the Soldier

Positive samples are kept for one year as evidence, if needed, in court proceedings, Lyons said. The soldier whose career may be on the line can request that his sample be retested at the TAMC lab, another DOD lab, or a civilian lab anywhere in the world, the latter at the soldier's expense.

"If there's ever any doubt about a sample — for example, one digit in a Social Security number isn't legible — we'll err on the side of the soldier," Lyons said. "Every possible measure is taken to protect the soldier."

Under the lab's quality-control program, experts regularly test computerized systems to ensure that instruments such as the screening analyzer, which performs an initial screening of 7,000 specimens per day, are working properly, Lyons said. Additionally, external, week-long evaluations of the lab are conducted quarterly.

To eliminate any question of employee tampering or interference by unauthorized visitors, cameras are situated in the parking lot outside FTDTL, at all entrances to the facility and in all laboratory work areas. They operate 24 hours a day to provide daily digital recordings. A swipe-card security system is also in place to ensure that only authorized personnel gain access to the facility.

Finally, to preclude any tampering with test results, Web-based reporting has replaced e-mail and "real mail," Lyons said.

What may appear to be overkill has resulted in 100 percent accuracy of test results at TAMC. "We've never reported a false positive," Lyons said.

Laboratory Analysis

DOD Directive 10101.16 outlines technical requirements for the actual lab analysis process that can isolate

Every specimen tested at FTDTL is screened for at least four drugs, and can also be tested for steroids and date-rape drugs. The lab tests as many as 100,000 specimens per month.

seven major classes of drugs, Lyons said. Every urine specimen examined at FTDTL is tested for at least four drugs.

"We can also test for steroids and date-rape drugs," said Lyons. The lab, which tested roughly 20,000 samples monthly in 1993, now tests as many as 100,000 per month.

Paving the Way for Change

The FTDTL at TAMC was scheduled to become the first tri-service drug-testing lab in October, in a pilot program to determine whether the joint services' laboratories should all become tri-service labs, Lyons said.

Currently the Air Force and Navy send samples to labs in San Antonio, Texas, and San Diego, Calif., respectively. Those include samples taken from airmen at both Hickam Air Force Base and Pearl Harbor on Oahu, about 10 miles from the TAMC facility.

The goal of FTDTL's rigorous testing process is to ensure that all test results are accurate and complete. This helps prevent errors and protects soldiers against false positives.

Story by Paula J. Randall Pagán

She's the Best!

Woman Wins National Rifle Championship

SHE says she's "just one of the guys." But when this female soldier triumphed over hundreds of the country's best rifle shooters, she became the first woman to win a particular national shooting title.

Shooting her M-16A2, **SPC Liana Bombardier**, an Army Marksmanship Unit service-rifle shooter, won the Service Rifle National Long-Range Rifle Championship at Camp Perry, Ohio. Bombardier garnered the Billy C. Atkins Trophy as the highest-scoring service-rifle shooter in the National Highpower Rifle Long-Range Championships in August.

The 21-year-old soldier is the first woman in the match's 100-year history to win the trophy awarded to the service-rifle shooter with the highest aggregate score over the entire championships.

"The Atkins Trophy is difficult to win and I was thrilled to find out I'd won it," Bombardier said. "I was behind by five points going into the last day of competition, but I shot well that last day and came up ahead. I never thought I was going to win."

Bombardier also fired her M-16A2 in matches at 600, 800, 900 and 1,000 yards, and won the service-rifle category in the Palma Individual Trophy Match and the high-master category in the Porter Trophy Match. She also won the Annie Oakley Trophy for being the best female shooter in this year's Interservice Championships in Quantico, Va.

"I attribute my success to the great equipment, the gunsmiths and the coaching staff behind the line giving shooters advice and help," Bombardier said.

And how does she feel about being the lone female training with more than a dozen of the Army's best male shooters on the USAMU Service-Rifle Team?

"I get treated like everyone else, but I expect a lot of myself," she said. "I would like to tell other shooters, especially women, to get out there, practice and enjoy the competition."

Bombardier started her shooting career in 1995. She was the 2001 Junior Service-Rifle National Champion, a member of the 2000 Trophy Cup Championship Team, and won the Arizona State Junior Service Rifle Championship in 1996, 1999, 2000 and 2001.

Paula J. Randall Pagán is with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office.

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The Corps Honors: Lewis and Clark

THE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has named several vessels to honor the members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

In 1932 the Corps' Kansas City District took delivery of *Captain Meriwether Lewis* and *William Clark*. The boats, named for the leaders of the Corps of Discovery, were virtually identical steel-hulled, oil-fueled, "dustpan" dredges, and were used to deepen and widen the channels of the Missouri River and its tributaries.

Later in the 1930s the Kansas City and Omaha Districts added vessels honoring all four of the expedition's sergeants — Charles Floyd, Patrick Gass, John Ordway and Nathaniel Pryor.

The Corps also purchased a motor launch, *Sacajawea*, and put her to work for the Fort Peck District. In June 1943 an explosion did considerable damage to the little craft, which was named after the Shoshone Indian who served as an interpreter for the expedition.

All the boats provided valuable service to the Corps along the Missouri. All were eventually decommissioned and either sold off or scrapped.

Two of the vessels, however, continue to have useful public functions. *Floyd* is a dry-docked museum in Sioux City, Iowa, and *Lewis* is the Museum of Missouri River History in Brownsville, Neb. Both vessels were designated National Historic Landmarks in 1989.

Lewis, **underway on the Missouri River in 1938, survives in Nebraska .**

Clark **and her attendant plant underway, also on the Missouri River.**

Sergeant Floyd, **seen here in 1938, is now a museum in Iowa.**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of History.

PFC John Nunn

RACEWALK

PFC John Nunn joined the Army in January 2001 and trained as an infantryman. That same year he joined the Army World Class Athlete Program and won a gold medal at the U.S. National 10K Racewalking Championships and a silver medal in the 30K competition. Nunn's best time in the 10K is 43.38.

Army WCAP
WORLD CLASS ATHLETE PROGRAM

WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.